



**Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership
Policy Workgroup**

July 12, 2019

10:30 AM

Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family

1700. W Washington St., Phoenix, Az 85032

Suite 230, Conference Room B

A general meeting of the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) Policy Workgroup (PW) was convened on July 12, 2019. The public were invited to attend in person at the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family - 1700. W Washington St., Suite 230, Phoenix, Az 85032, notice having been duly given.

Members Present (9)	
Elizabeth Burton Ortiz, Co-Chair, Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council	
Maria Cristina Fuentes, Co-Chair, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	
Andy LeFevre, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission	
Cara Christ, Arizona Department of Health Services	
Dawn Mertz, Arizona High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area	
Jeff Beaver, Maricopa County Attorney's Office	
Merilee Fowler, Matforce [Telephonic]	
Paul Aguirre, National Guard Counter Drug Taskforce	
Shana Malone, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System	
Staff/Guests Present (2)	Members Absent (1)
Samuel Burba, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	Wanda Wright, Arizona Department of Veterans Service
Christina Corieri, Governor's Office	

Call to Order

- **Elizabeth Burton Ortiz, Co-Chairperson**, called the PW meeting to order at 10:33 AM with 8 members and 1 staff/members of the public present. One additional member joined the meeting at 10:40 AM via telephone.

Welcome and Introduction

- **Co-Chairperson Ortiz** welcomed everyone in attendance, thanked them for being a part of the Policy Workgroup and requested each member present introduce themselves and clearly state their name, agency and title.

- **Co-Chairperson Ortiz**, requested a review of the April 26, 2019 meeting minutes.
 - **Maria Cristina Fuentes** motioned to accept the April 26, 2019 minutes without revision.
 - **And LeFevre** seconded the motion.
 - The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Arizona Opioid Action Plan and Potential Policy Recommendations

- **Cara Christ, M.D.**, provided a presentation on the process for the development of the 2018 ADHS Opioid Action Plan along with the development of the 2017 legislative package. **Dr. Christ** provided an overview of the Governor's goal council structure and explained how that structure was leveraged to gain state agency and community support. **Dr. Christ** also explained how ADHS conducted a 50 state review on opioid related policy and how that study in conjunction with stake holder input helped form the 2017 Opioid Action Plan and legislative package.
- **Dr. Christ** stated that with the successful completion of the 2017 report, ADHS is in the process of drafting the 2019-2020 Opioid Action Plan. To ensure the Action Plan receives continued support and attention, the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) has agreed to provide oversight for the report.
- **Dr. Christ** stated that there are several policy recommendations that the Policy Workgroup could consider moving forward to support the 2019-2020 Opioid Action Plan. **Dr. Christ** requested ASAP policy committee consideration on the following items:
 - Controlled Substance Prescription Monitoring Program (CSPMP) utilization, enforcement and/or exemptions
 - Barriers for hospitals to provide naloxone to patients at discharge
 - State agency examination of policies that may act as barriers to care (organizational policies)
 - Frequency of licensing authorities to review new regulations
 - Investment in 211
 - Address punitive treatment models that deny people services due to relapse
 - Leverage state leadership messaging for substance use disorder as a disease and MAT as evidence-based practice (organizational policies)
- The group discussed each of the policy recommendations from ADHS to include brief discussions on stigma reduction efforts, data sharing, the impact of methamphetamines and marijuana, access to MAT and SUD modalities for individuals released from prison/jails, and prevention messaging on college and university campuses. Recommendations related to the CSPMP garnered the most discussion to include discussion on how it is funded, monitored and enforced.
- **Dr. Christ** completed her presentation by stating that AHCCCS is working on payment reforms (e.g. co-location of services, value-based payment models for pain care and substance use disorder, increased care coordination, social determinants, trauma) and ADHS is working to reconvene the Insurance Parity Taskforce.

Update on Substance Abuse/Opioid Priorities

- **Christina Corieri**, introduced herself and provided an update on Governor Ducey's priorities regarding substance abuse and the current opioid crisis stating that the administration is very encouraged to see significant decreases in data being monitored related to opioids. **Ms. Corieri** stated that the administration is currently working with AHCCCS on State Opioid Response grant through the Substance Abuse Mental Health Administration, ADHS on setting rules for sober living homes and MAT facilities aligning with best practices.
- **Ms. Corieri** stated that the group may consider recommendations on incentivizing doctors to use less invasive procedures that have been proven to be more effective in the short-term and long-term

health of the patient. These procedures benefit the patient, are less expensive, and often require less pain medication. Recommendations may consider how this aligns with value-based purchasing.

- The group discussed the need for stronger enforcement of youth marijuana use within dispensaries. The goal would be to review state laws on medical marijuana to better prevent the onset of marijuana use in youth. **Andy LeFevre** and **Dr. Christ** agreed to discuss current funding through ADHS for law enforcement to prevent youth use of marijuana. **Shana Malone** added that in addition to increased law enforcement activities, ongoing advertisements should be considered on keeping marijuana out of reach of children, checking inventory and properly disposing of unused and unwanted marijuana. The messaging on storage and disposal should mirror the messaging around prescribed medication.
- The group discussed better using screening in medical practices before the prescription of opioids (e.g. depression, addiction, and ACEs). **Ms. Malone** stated that AHCCCS pays for the screenings in some cases. The goal in the screening is to get individuals the right level of care in order to improve patient outcomes.
- **Ms. Corieri** thanked everyone for their input and work on substance abuse.

2019 Meeting Dates

- **Co-Chairperson Ortiz** asked **Samuel Burba** to review upcoming meeting date. **Mr. Burba** notified the workgroup that the next meeting date is **Tuesday, August 27, 2019 beginning at 10:00 AM** and asked that members mark their calendars.

Call to the Public

- **Co-Chairperson Ortiz** conducted a call to the public. No members of the public addressed the PW.

Adjourn

- **Co-Chairperson Ortiz** entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting
 - **Dawn Mertz** made a motion.
 - **Maria Cristina Fuentes** seconded the motion.
 - Meeting adjourned at 11:51 AM.

Dated the nineteenth day of July 2019
Policy Workgroup
Respectfully Submitted By:
Samuel Burba
Director of Substance Abuse Initiatives
Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family